

# Lecture 40

Monday, April 13, 2015 10:04 AM

$R$  a (not necessarily commutative or w/1) ring.

Defn An  $R$ -module  $M$  is an abelian group  $(M, +)$  equipped w/ an "action"  $R \times M \rightarrow M$   
 $(r, m) \mapsto rm$

s.t. ①  $\forall r, s \in R, m \in M, (r+s)m = (rm) + (sm)$ ,

②  $\forall r, s \in R, m \in M, (rs)m = r(sm)$

③  $\forall r \in R, m, n \in M, r(m+n) = (rm) + (rn)$

If  $1 \in R$ , then ④  $1m = m$ .

Note If  $R$  is a field (e.g.,  $\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{C}$ ) then a left  $R$ -module is the same as a vector space over  $R$ .

e.g.  $R$  is an  $R$ -module via mult'n in  $R$

$R^n = R^{x^n} = \underbrace{R \times R \times \dots \times R}_{n \text{ times}}$  via

$$r \cdot (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = (rx_1, rx_2, \dots, rx_n)$$

- $\mathbb{R}$  is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -module, but also  $\mathbb{Q}$ -module or a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module since  $\mathbb{Z}, \mathbb{Q}$  are subrings of  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- Consider  $\mathbb{R}$  w/ its standard  $\mathbb{R}$ -module structure. Submodules of  $\mathbb{R}$  are precisely the ideals of  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- If  $M$  is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -module &  $I \trianglelefteq \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $IM = 0$ , then  $M$  has the structure of an  $\mathbb{R}/I$ -module via

$$(r+I) \cdot m = rm$$

Exe Check the axioms in this case.

E.G.  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules. If  $(A, +)$  is an abelian gp, then  $A$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module via

$$na = \begin{cases} \underbrace{a + \dots + a}_{n \text{ times}} & \text{if } n > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } n = 0 \\ \underbrace{-a - a - \dots - a}_{-n \text{ times}} & \text{if } n < 0 \end{cases}$$

In fact, if  $(M, +)$  has a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module str, then  $1 \cdot m = m$  forces  $2 \cdot m = (1+1)m = m+m$ , etc. so that all

all  $\mathbb{Z}$ -modules arise in this fashion

$$\{\mathbb{Z}\text{-modules}\} \longleftrightarrow \{\text{abelian groups}\}$$

Defn Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module. Then  $N \subseteq M$  is a submodule of  $M$  if  $(N, +) \subseteq (M, +)$  and the restriction of the  $R$ -action on  $M$  to  $N$  has image in  $N$ , i.e.  $R \cdot N \subseteq N$ .

Note Submodules of a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module are precisely subgps of the assoc ab gp.

E.G.  $F[x]$ -modules,  $F$  a field.

Let  $V$  be an  $F$ -vector space. Consider a linear transformation  $T: V \rightarrow V$ .

Define  $T^0 = \text{id}$ ,  $T^n = T^{n-1} \circ T$  for  $n > 0$ .

i.e.  $T^0 = \text{id}$ ,  $T^1 = T$ ,  $T^2 = T \circ T$ ,  $T^3 = T \circ T \circ T$ , ...

For  $A, B: V \rightarrow V$  linear transformations &  $\alpha, \beta \in F$

define  $\alpha A + \beta B: V \rightarrow V$ ,  $v \mapsto \alpha A(v) + \beta B(v)$

$\alpha A + \beta B$  is a new linear transformation !

So for  $p(x) \in F[x]$ ,  $v \in V$

$$a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_0$$

define  $p(x)v = (a_n T^n + a_{n-1} T^{n-1} + \dots + a_0)(v)$   
 $= a_n T^n(v) + a_{n-1} T^{n-1}(v) + \dots + a_0 v$

I.e.  $x$  acts as  $T$  and thus induces an  $F[x]$ -module structure on  $V$ .

Note The same  $F$ -v.s.  $V$  has a different  $F[x]$ -mod str for each  $T: V \rightarrow V$  !

e.g.  $T = \mathcal{O}$  then  $p(x)v = a_0 v$

$T = id$  then  $p(x)v = (\sum a_k x^k)v$   
 $= (\sum a_k id)v$   
 $= \sum a_k v$

$T: F^m \rightarrow F^m$  shift  $(x_1, \dots, x_m) \mapsto (x_2, x_3, \dots, x_m, 0)$

•  $T: F^m \rightarrow F^m$  shift  $(x_1, \dots, x_m) \mapsto (x_2, x_3, \dots, x_m, 0)$

Fact  $\{ F[x]\text{-modules} \} \xleftrightarrow{\cong} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} F\text{-vector spaces } V \\ + \\ \text{linear } T: V \rightarrow V \end{array} \right\}$

$V \longmapsto V$  is an  $F$ -v.s. by action of const polys  
+

$T = \text{action of } x$ .

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 \cdot v &= x(xv) \\ &= T(Tv) = T^2 v \quad \text{etc.} \end{aligned}$$

Q What does a submodule of  $V$  look like?

We have  $W \subseteq V$  a vector subspace of  $V$  s.t.

$T(W) \subseteq W$ . Such a subspace is called

$T$ -stable and the  $T$ -stable vector subspaces which are submodules of  $V$ .

e.g. For shift: if  $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) \in W$   
then  $(x_2, \dots, x_m, 0) \in W$ , e.g.  $F^k \times 0^{m-k}$

E.G.  $R$  a comm ring w/ 1,  $G$  a <sup>finite</sup> gp  
 group ring  $RG = \sum_{g \in G} a_g g$

Then  $RG$ -modules are representations of  $G$ .  
 so "representation theory" = the study of  
 $RG$ -modules.

### Submodule Criterion

$M$  an  $R$ -module,  $N \subseteq M$  is a submodule

$\Leftrightarrow$  ①  $N \neq \emptyset$  & ②  $x + ry \in N \quad \forall x, y \in N, r \in R$

Pf ( $\Rightarrow$ )  $0 \in N \neq \emptyset \quad \checkmark$

$x \in N, y \in N, r \in R \Rightarrow ry \in N$

$\Rightarrow x + ry \in N$

( $\Leftarrow$ )  $\checkmark \quad \square$

Def'n  $R$  comm ring w/1. An  $R$ -algebra is a ring  $A$  w/1 equipped w/a ring hom  $f: R \rightarrow A$  s.t.  $f(R) \subseteq Z(A)$ ,

e.g.  $F[x]$  is an  $F$ -alg via  $f: F \rightarrow F[x]$   
 $a \mapsto a$

$R \rightarrow RG$  makes  $RG$  an  $R$ -alg.  
 $r \mapsto r \cdot 1$